

Roll Call

A Guam Police Department Publication

Volume II, Issue VI June 2006

New GPD Vehicles to Augment Public Safety Mission



\$302,600 in Compact Impact Funds purchase 12 new vehicles

Governor Felix P. Camacho today presented the Guam Police Department with 12 new vehicles purchased from 2004 Compact Impact funds that will be used by the Criminal Investigations Division to help solve homicide cases, thefts and a broad range of crimes committed against people. The new vehicles also will be used by crews operating GPD's maintenance services.

We must continue stepping up our efforts to strengthen our public safety agencies so they can fight crime and protect our people," Governor Camacho said. "The Administration maintains its commitment to supporting the mission of our law enforcement officials."

Governor Camacho has dedicated about \$4.4 million in Compact Impact funds from 2004 and 2005 to public safety agencies, assisting GPD in augmenting its fleet of patrol vehicles, purchasing equipment, financing infrastructure improvements, as well as providing additional resources for the Guam Fire Department and the Department of Corrections.

"Together, we are providing our law enforcement officials with the tools they need to keep our streets safe and our homes secure," Governor Camacho said. "We will continue using Compact funds for what matters most to our people – public safety, education and health care."

Governor Camacho presented the new vehicles, as well as the recently-outfitted Crown Victoria Patrol cars from a previous Compact Impact funding purchase, to Chief of Police Frankie T. Ishizaki and police officers at a press conference held this morning on the Adelup Front Lawn.

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"O1's Corner"



want to thank you for participating in our Police Week activities. I want to especially thank members of the Police Week Committee, business partners, staff members who were not part of the committee, and others who helped in so many different ways to deliver another successful police week.

The memorial service was beautifully done. The golf tournament was a tremendous success thanks to Sgt Ron Taitano and members of the committee. Training day was a super success. Employee awards and recognition were greatly done. The banquet was well attended. Alan Guzman was funny as usual. Our pistol competitors out performed all others and brought back team championships. If you did not participate, you missed out. If you were involved, I am sure you had a great time.

More of our retirees and former employees participated. As we mature with our great department, each of us will be leaving GPD. In this vein, I appeal to all current employees to extend our appreciation and recognition to those who have walked the very ground you now walk in order to serve our community. I will continue to preach the need to take care of the GPD family. Our family extends beyond those who now work for us and our individual family members. The GPD family encompasses all who served before.

Recently, we have had conflicts between our officers and retired officers. These were unnecessary conflicts which must be avoided. When you retire from GPD, you must face the possibility that the newer and younger officer might not recognize you. As a GPD officer, you must conduct yourself in a courteous and professional manner, at all times.

In case you did not know, "Atan Baba" is neither a felony nor a misdemeanor. When you receive a less than courteous response from an individual, you must keep your cool. If you cannot handle disrespect from the community, then perhaps you do not belong in this department. It is easy to perform your job when people are nice to you; however, the challenge of your job is how you handle difficult situations. You must handle tough situations, each and every time, in a profession manner. If you don't know how to do that, come see me.

I am proud of how you perform your jobs and I am honored to serve with you. Lets make GPD a better place to work and lets strive for additional accomplishments this year.

Let's thank Governor Felix Camacho for providing much needed Compact-Impact funds to improve our radio communication system, build the evidence wing, and purchase vehicles. Speaking of vehicles, we added 12 new Nissans to our fleet with the delivery of 9 sedans and 3 pickup trucks. In total, we added 101 new vehicles to the GPD fleet since Governor Camacho took office with Major Earl Aguigui and me at the helm. Brad Hokanson has processed the remaining balance of the vehicle procurement funds and we expect delivery of a few more cars, trucks, and motorcycles in a few months. In total, the governor pro-

vided \$4.4 million dollars to public safety agencies and GPD received \$2.4 million for vehicles.

Please, please, please, take care of our equipment. Please drive our cars



GPD Chief of Police Frank Ishizaki

carefully and responsibly. Please take care of our computers. Please be careful with the handling, storage, and use of firearms. This means that we must think about what we are doing, we must be aware of our surroundings, we must be diligent, courteous, professional, and respectful. Take your time when responding to various situations. Taking your time will actually "save us time". If you work hastily, you will probably make errors. Errors will require corrective measures... these take more time than you realize. Because of your duties, errors can be fatal or at minimum, critical. We can lose a life, a criminal case or face discipline because of these errors. If you take just a moment to think, you can become the hero who saved the day. Lets all be heroes to the people we serve

Quality of Life concerns for GPD employees are being tackled with projects to evaluate and amend promotional and recruitment standards and a second project to assess national police compensation was initiated. I shall be ready to submit these to DOA and the 28th Guam Legislature shortly. If you have any suggestions please feel free to provide suggestions to Capt Rick Leon Guerrero, Lt Fred Bordallo, or Sgt Mark Torre.

This month, I head to Dallas, Texas to attend the Amber Alert Leadership workshop. As you know, we faced a few critical child-kidnapping matters last year and as a result, we instituted the Amber Alert program with the Governor's Office, Office of Civil Defense, and the media. We also requested the assistance of our business community to offer a reward for the capture and conviction of the responsible. We were very fortunate that no life was lost and that all the children were able to get back home safely. Members of our department will be attending other Amber Alert training sessions in the next months. We will continue to make GPD the best police department possible. My travel for June will also include some time to visit with family.

Following a brief vacation, I head to Lyon, France to speak before the Complex Asian Organized Crime Symposium which is hosted by the Interpol General Secretariat. The symposium is organized by the Center for Asian Crime Studies in Bethesda, Maryland. The invitation for me to speak before the symposium was supported with enthusiasm by Governor Camacho.

Let's welcome an old friend, Rick Mathers, to Guam. He is a retired FBI agent with whom I have conducted similar training in the past. Mr.

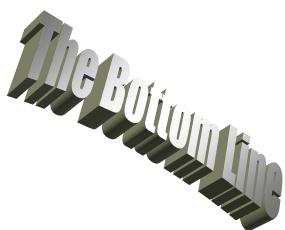
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GPD Chief Legal Counsel

Jim Mitchell



I believe that this month is an appropriate time to discuss the legal aspects of gun safety. Public Law 20-223 entitled the "Robert Michael Webber Firearms Liability Act of 1990" intends to prevent death and injuries that result from improperly stored firearms or firearms easily accessible to minors. To this end, The Webber Act added provisions to Guam's firearms statute (Title 10, Chapter 60 of the Guam Code Annotated.) At the outset we should note the following provision of the firearms statute.

"Chapter Not Applicable. This Chapter shall not apply to: (a) Law enforcement officers when using firearms authorized by the Chief of Police in their official duty." 10 GCA § 60101(a).

Thus, Guam's firearms statute does not apply to police officers in the performance of their official duties. Nevertheless, the statute contains some important lessons for police officers who possess and use firearms while not performing official duties. Section 60121(g)(1) mandates imprisonment of not less than five (5) years and a fine of not less than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for anyone who gives a firearm to a minor. Section 60121(h) mandates imprisonment of not less than one (1) year and a fine of not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) for persons who negligently entrusts a firearm to a minor. The statute prohibits suspension of the prison sentence and forbids probation or parole.

In addition to criminal penalties, the Webber Act established civil liability standards for offenders. It states that firearms owners are strictly liable in tort to a person that dies or is injured as a result of the use or possession of a firearm by a minor. If an individual is strictly liable in tort, a plaintiff need not prove that the owner was negligent. The fact that he or she owned the gun is sufficient to establish liability. The parents or guardians of a minor who causes death or injury as a result of the use of a firearm is liable for an amount not exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.)

Importantly, the Webber Act exempts owners from civil liability if (1) the firearm is stored in a secure, locked cabinet or closet in the home of its lawful owner; (2) if the minor obtains the firearm as a result of the unlawful entry of the home of the owner of the firearm; (3) if the firearm was properly secured by the owner with a trigger lock; or (4) if the minor gains possession of the firearm while police or other law enforcement officials are engaged in the performance of their official duties.

The exceptions serve as a safe harbor for those who properly store and use their firearms. They also support the Legislative finding "that it is a tragedy when adults and minors are killed or wounded by improperly stored firearms easily accessible to minors. Such neglect is irresponsible, encourages such accidents, and should be prohibited; and criminal punishment and civil liability should attach to protect the safety of potential victims." In the interest of public safety, it is imperative that all police officers exercise due care in handling and storing their firearms; both on and off duty.

THE BOTTOM LINE

is that "there is no such thing as an Accidental Discharge; only negligent ones." General Order No. 97-03 § V(I).

Education vs. Experience

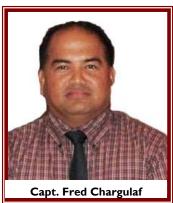
Recently, there has been a debate about education & experience standards related to promotional opportunities within the department. This discussion happened as a result of some officers not able to meet educational requirements; although they have been *underfilling* positions since January, 2000. That was the year the department experienced a depletion of GPD managers during the infamous "mass exodus".

I would like to provide some historical background. In January, 2000, Government of Guam employees were given an opportunity to retire early or "buy out" from the government. Most of the upper management of the department took advantage of this opportunity and retired. Without any notice, it forced our mid-level managers and the few upper level managers left to fill the void by under-filling the vacant positions. The economy was in a slump, so promotions or additional compensation was not feasible. Most of our officers who held the rank of POIII & above were under-filling the next rank up. I was one of them. Because of the severe shortage of personnel, my primary concern was to ensure that we delivered the best possible service for the island. This went on for four years from 2000 to 2004. From 2003 to 2004 I was under-filling the rank of two captains. Let's not forget the numerous typhoons during this four year period, including Super Typhoon Pongsona. The under-filling issue was not addressed and went unnoticed due to the many calamities the department was responding to.

In the past two years, the department had seen many positive changes; Acquiring equipment, hiring of personnel, unprecedented training (on & off island) and promotions to name a few. A few officers who were under-filling since 2000 were not promoted because they did not meet the educational requirements; in spite of the fact that they continue to under-fill and perform satisfactorily. Because of this, the Chief has formed a committee to look into, assess and provide recommendations to address the diverse education and experience that our officers have. I was fortunate to sit in on one of their meetings and participate. There was a tremendous amount of energy among the members. I have had conversations with officers with different ranks on this issue and both sides have very compelling responses.

I have degrees from both the Guam Community College and the

University of Guam. Therefore, I am a staunch supporter for everyone to seek higher education. It requires a tremendous amount of dedication, commitment and the most important factor, support from the family. We all have excuses, mine included, but if you want to get something and somewhere, you are the only hindrance to that goal.



On the other hand, experience is a very important facet of police work. Most of the decisions we make require common sense. Therefore, experience is a main component in the decision making process. With everything written, is there really a question of education versus education?

My response is, in order to be successful; one is not functional without the other. My success has been the result of my educational background and the experience that I have gained from being one of Guam's finest for twenty two years. How you ask? Although it is very challenging, going to school allowed me to look at police work from a theoretical perspective which cannot be assessed from an "experience" perspective. On the other hand, going to work allowed me to bring to the classroom my experience, which no textbook can provide. In speaking to some officers, they ask, how do you validate experience? A common answer is via education. By going to school and discussing your experiences and applying theories, is one avenue. With that, so how do you validate education? By taking theories learned in the classroom and linking them with your experience at work. There has to be a balance. For example, one recommendation is the more credits you have then certain amount of years of experienced is waived. To balance this, years of experience must also be credited in lieu of college credits. In summary, if the proposal is to waive experience in lieu of college credit, then college credit must be waived in lieu of experience. It is not education versus experience, rather it is education & experience, and they BOTH have to be BALANCED.

(Continued from page 2)

Mathers is the principal instructor for the "Death Investigation" course which is open to all GPD personnel, and law enforcement partners from Rota DPS, ATF, AG's Office, NCIS, Naval Security, and Department of Corrections. Other instructors include Jim Mitchell, Doctor Espanola, members of our Crime Lab, and me. It was my intention to include CAPE volunteers in the training. However, Mr. Mathers had concerns about teaching sensitive investigative tactics to non-sworn personnel because of a prior incident in which a volunteer turned out to be Kenneth Bianci, a notorious serial killer. Mr. Mathers asked that volunteers be excluded. I don't agree with him but out of respect for his point of view; our volunteers were excluded. Please accept my apologies and know that you will be welcome at future training sessions.

The course is sponsored by Pacific Petroleum, Outrigger Resort Guam, National Office Supply, Guam Chamber of Commerce, Nissan Guam, No Ka Oi, and Pacific Tyre. The "Death Investigation" class is the brainchild of Lt. Kim Santos. Let us thank Lt. Kim and Criminal Investigation Section for putting this all together. I trust that all participants will gain much knowledge from it. Professor Ron McNinch is working on getting all successful attendees 3 UOG credits.

Have a great June and thank you, 01





L to R: Club Member Alex Tithingrad, Ms. Dominica Blas, Ms. Virginia S. Sanchez, (Sister and Mother of late Police Officer Raymond S. Sanchez) and Juan Reyes Club President

On Monday, May 15, 2006, members of the Southern High School Close Up presented "rubbings" of the names of slain law enforcement officers from Guam. The Officers' Names are engraved in marble at the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial in Washington, D.C. The students visited the memorial in April as part of the annual Southern High School Close Up Club field trip.

Attending the local memorial service were club member, Alex Tithingrad, club president, Juan Reyes and club advisor, Mr. Art Mergist.

Sgt. Jovito Jasmin, Shift Supervisor, Hagatna Precinct Command and his spouse Dolores Marguerite Gergaud Jasmin have been blessed by the birth of baby boy Jonathan Michael Gergaud Jasmin on February 4, 2006

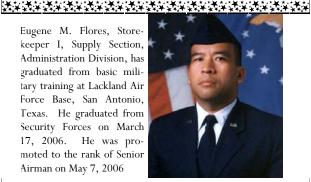


Lt. Steve C. Ignacio, Operations Chief, Highway Patrol Division and his spouse Betty Jean Lorenzo have been blessed by the birth of baby boy Stephen Matthew Lujan Lorenzo on May 12, 2006



Eugene M. Flores, Storekeeper I, Supply Section, Administration Division, has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He graduated from Security Forces on March 17, 2006. He was promoted to the rank of Senior

Airman on May 7, 2006





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Notification of Deaths

Mr. Manuel Baza Sudo

Father-in-law of

Police I t. Manuel A. Babauta

Your prayers and kind assistance at this time will be greatly appreciated by

the Sudo and Babauta families



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"Hafa Adai, Chief Ishizaki,

The ceremony on Monday was a beautiful tribute to those officers who have given their lives in the line of duty. Surely, it was a meaningful service for their families and friends, and for all of us who value the service of our public safety officers.

Thank you for providing an opportunity for Guam Girl Scouts to participate. The girls of Brownie Troop #024 who were able to attend, took great pride in welcoming the guests and handing out programs. They also understood the reasons behind the ceremony, and had tears along with the rest of us, as names of the fallen officers were called. One of the younger girls told me that she did not know that 'girl officers could die, too'.

Through ceremonies of their own, Girl Scouts learn to mark special occasions, whether joyful or solemn. They understand that it is important to pause and focus upon patriotism, upon service and upon giving. So it is with honor that Girl Scouts joined the Guam Police Department in the May 15th tribute.

I hope that we might have the opportunity again next year, to join you. There are many other girls who would like to take part, and we want to foster their attitude of respect and appreciation for our public safety officers.

Please extend our thanks to Bing and Julie on your staff, for their gracious assistance to us as the ceremony plans were being made. We look forward to partnering with you all again."

Sincerely,

Vickie Fish

Executive Director

Guam Girl Scouts



"As a former GPD Officer and member of the Guam Highway Patrol, I'd like to weigh in on the DUI and traffic laws on Guam. While I served at GPD I felt that Guam had some of the most stringent DUI and traffic laws in the world because the law was updated as a result of a Guam Senator's daughter getting into a crash that involved a drunken driver. After being stationed Army and living and traveling in Europe now for 5 years and being deployed 3 times I have seen some countries that have very good DUI and traffic laws and other less developed countries that have very poor DUI and traffic laws. However one thing I noticed is that having good DUI and traffic laws is just the first step. Enforcement with adequate resources and training is an important second step. But the third and I believe, the most important step, is the community attitude towards DUI and traffic laws. I have seen some of the most disciplined drivers right here in Germany. When I got here and consistently to this day, it is instilled to us Americans that driving in Germany is very serious and our "reckless American style of driving" will not be tolerated. You see it is very bad manners, and even shameful to drive obnoxiously here in Germany. You can get a ticket if someone reports you driving badly or if you make an offensive hand gesture to another motorist on the road. No questions asked. In Croatia where I vacationed recently with my wife, I was advised not to rent a car and drive because of the extremely strict traffic laws. You know they have a 0% Blood Alcohol Content tolerance. I thought to myself, how wonderful! If only the rest of the world would do the same. The taxi drivers there are very afraid of getting a ticket because they will have their license suspended for 30 days. I witnessed a group of 6 Americans asking a taxi that only had 4 seats if they could all ride. The taxi driver refused because everyone needed to be in seatbelts. The Americans offered to pay more and the taxi driver stated that he would be in very deep doodoo with the police if they pulled him over and not everyone was in a seatbelt. All kinds of attempts to persuade him took place but the taxi driver was not willing to risk it. I believe it's this kind of attitude, respect, or fear toward the DUI and Traffic Laws that is really what makes a difference. I feel Guam should adopt a 0% BAC policy, raise the drinking age to 21, and disallow the riding of people in the back of pickup trucks. There are many arguments against all of this but when you look at the big picture it's comes down to two things: Safety of human lives vs. Money. I don't think I have to state which of the two is more important. The Guam Senators need to make the tough decision, take the high road, and pass better DUI and Traffic Laws no matter how unpopular they may be. We shouldn't have to wait until another child of a Senator is affected by a Drunk Driver."

Very Respectfully,

Peter J. Santos Captain, United States Army Mannheim, Germany







Storekeeper I Eugene M. Flore, 1/t Police Captain Raymond S.A. Perez Police Recruit Harrilee M. Matrumoto 1/t Police Officer II Julian L. Laxamana Jr. Cadet Ermeralda A. Sabinay 5th Admin Servicer Officer Katherine A. Taijeron Rutomotive Mechanic I Victor Q. Sanchez 7th Clerk I Helen M. Tover Computer Operator III John S. Bamba 8th Admin. Arrt. Zenaida V. Okada Police Officer II Phillip F. Paulino 8th Detention Facility Guard Anthony P. Quichocho. Sr. frank A. Corpuz 9th Police Sergeant I Michael Q. Aguon Cadet Duk Keun Yi 9th Police Sergeant I Richard A. Grerr Police Officer II John Anthony L.G. Perez 10th Police Officer I Gabriel Anthony A. Siron Police Recruit Steven G. Toparna 10th Police Sergeant I Robert J. Avellana Police Sergeant I Jamer S. Cruz 11th Police Officer III Graig C. Chong			Page 7			
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John Tyquienco Firearms Examiner



BUT THEY'RE ONLY DONUTS OFFICER!

A Guam Police Department **Publication**

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"To Protect and to Serve"

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HUMAN LIFE INTEGRITY LAWS AND CONSTITUTI EXCELLENCE **ACCOUNTABILITY** COOPERATION PROBLEM—SOLVING **OURSELVES**







CAPE Volunteers with COP and Govenor Camacho





Old Timers and Current Staff at Police Week Banquet

L to R: Tony Abulencia, Capt. Chargualaf, US Marshal Jack Salas, Capt. Ryan, Val Pangelinan, Frank Sanchez, Capt Suba, COP Ishizaki, Kathy Taijeron, Capt. Leon Guerrero